

A BILL

To facilitate the procurement of doctors of medicine and doctors of dentistry for the Armed Forces by providing grants and scholarships for education in the medical and dental professions, and for other purposes.

1       Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of  
2       the United States of America in Congress assembled, That in order  
3       to provide a supplementary program for the training and procure-  
4       ment of doctors of medicine and doctors of dentistry to meet the  
5       needs of the Armed Forces, the Secretary of the Army, the Secretary  
6       of the Navy, and the Secretary of the Air Force, are authorized  
7       to establish and provide scholarships annually for the education  
8       and training of doctors of medicine and doctors of dentistry.

9       SEC. 2. (a) For the purpose of administration of scholar-  
10      ship beneficiaries under the terms of this Act, there are hereby  
11      established under the jurisdiction of the Department of Defense,

- 12                   (1) The Army Medical Services Scholarship Group,  
13                   (2) The Naval Medical Services Scholarship Group, and  
14                   (3) The Air Force Medical Services Scholarship Group.

15               (b) Membership in a Medical Services Scholarship Group  
16      shall be limited to persons who:

- 17                   (1) Are citizens of the United States; and  
18                   (2) Are selected as provided in Sec. 6 of this Act  
19      to be a scholarship beneficiary; and  
20                   (3) Apparently will be physically, mentally, and

1     morally fit to perform military duty at the time for their  
2     appointment to commissioned grade; and

3                 (4)   Are not receiving education, training, or  
4     any other benefits under Parts VII or VIII of Veterans Regulation  
5     numbered 1(a) as amended, or under Title II of the Veterans' Re-  
6     adjustment Assistance Act of 1952; and

7                 (5)   Who agree under oath and in writing, with the  
8     written consent of the parent or guardian if the beneficiary is a  
9     minor, to complete the requirements for graduation, unless relieved  
10    from this obligation under regulations prescribed by the Secretary  
11    of Defense, and to serve in the Army, Navy or Air Force as provided  
12    in Sec. 6.

13               (c)   Membership in a Medical Services Scholarship Group,  
14    and written agreements related thereto, may be terminated under  
15    regulations prescribed by the Secretary of Defense.

16           SEC. 3. (a) Members of a Medical Services Scholarship Group  
17    enrolled under this Act shall be entitled to receive a monetary  
18    allowance at a rate not to exceed \$133.00 per month while under  
19    regularly scheduled instruction or training in a school of medicine  
20    or a school of dentistry.

21               (b)   Any member of a Medical Services Scholarship Group,  
22    will not be considered or made eligible for military or veterans  
23    benefits of any kind solely by reason of being a member of such  
24    group.

1           SEC. 4. The scholarships authorized by this Act shall be  
2     provided for by contracts with educational institutions, approved  
3     by the Secretary of Defense, offering training leading to degrees  
4     in the professions named in Sec. 1 of this Act. In addition to the  
5     monetary allowance provided for by Sec. 3 of this Act these contracts  
6     and payments by the Government thereunder shall include to each  
7     school of medicine and school of dentistry which provides training  
8     leading to a degree of doctor of medicine or doctor of dentistry,  
9     an amount sufficient to cover tuition, fees, and laboratory expenses  
10    normally charged students by the school concerned.

11          SEC. 5. The scholarships provided for herein shall be estab-  
12    lished, awarded, continued or discontinued, and the purposes of  
13    this Act effectuated pursuant to such regulations as the Secretary  
14    of Defense shall prescribe. These regulations shall include, but  
15    not be limited to, the following provisions:

16                   (1) Qualifications of scholarship beneficiaries;

17                   (2) That each scholarship applicant shall be  
18    accepted for admission by an approved educational institution offer-  
19    ing training leading to degrees in the professions named in Sec. 1  
20    of this Act;

21                   (3) That prior to the award of such a scholarship  
22    any person to be selected for such an award shall agree that upon  
23    completion of his scholarship training he will accept an appointment,  
24    if tendered, as a reserve officer in the Army, Navy, or Air Force

1 and remain an officer in a regular or reserve component until  
2 the eighth anniversary of his original appointment under this  
3 Act;

4 (4) The scholarship applicant shall further agree  
5 that upon completion of his scholarship training he will serve on  
6 active duty, at such time as may be determined by competent author-  
7 ity, for the period of time specified in such agreement, which  
8 period shall be not less than one year of active duty for each  
9 school year or fractional part thereof, for which payments are  
10 made on the scholarship beneficiary's behalf pursuant to Sec. 4  
11 of this Act not including time spent in internship or residency  
12 training, except that if less than three years of payments are  
13 made to a beneficiary he may be obliged to serve three years of  
14 active duty, two years of which will satisfy active duty require-  
15 ments of the Universal Military Training and Service Act, as amended;  
16 and

17 (5) The Secretary of the military department con-  
18 cerned may select qualified scholarship graduates for appointment  
19 as regular officers.

20 SEC. 6. A scholarship graduate may be voluntarily relieved  
21 of his active duty obligations under the provisions of this Act if  
22 he completes at least three years of active duty, not including  
23 time spent as an intern or in residency training, and repays to  
24 the United States Government the total amount paid to him or for

1 him by the United States Government under a scholarship contract.  
2 Such amounts paid by the scholarship graduate will include interest  
3 rates as the Secretary of Defense may prescribe, but such interest  
4 rates shall not exceed 6% per annum.

5 SEC. 7. If a scholarship beneficiary fails to complete a  
6 course of instruction or training in which he was enrolled as a  
7 member of a Medical Services Scholarship Group, or if he fails to  
8 remain as a member of such group, he shall be obligated to repay  
9 to the United States Government the total amount of tuition, fees,  
10 and laboratory expenses normally charged by the school for the  
11 period of attendance for the student participant, and the total  
12 amount paid to him as monetary allowance plus such rate of interest  
13 not to exceed 6% per annum as the Secretary of Defense shall pre-  
14 scribe. The Secretary of Defense may, however, in cases of hardship  
15 or for other good cause, remit in whole, or part of, the total  
16 amount due, or he may authorize a reduction in such amount if the  
17 beneficiary voluntarily serves on active duty in the Armed Forces,  
18 in such rank or rating as he may be qualified to hold and for such  
19 reasonable period of time as the Secretary of Defense may prescribe.  
20 Such reduction shall be a percentage of the total amount due not  
21 greater than the percentage relationship between the number of full  
22 months of active duty performed and the total number of months or  
23 fractional months for which the scholarship beneficiary received a  
24 monetary allowance. Any release from obligation to serve in the

1 Armed Forces, under this Act, if granted, shall apply only with  
2 respect to such obligation as is imposed under the provisions of  
3 this Act.

4 SEC. 8. To advise the Secretary of Defense concerning the  
5 administration of this Act, an Armed Forces Medical Services  
6 Scholarship Board is established which is composed of a chairman,  
7 appointed by the Secretary of Defense, and the Surgeons General of  
8 the Armed Forces.

9 SEC. 9. (a) There are authorized to be appropriated such  
10 sums as are necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act.

11 (b) All payments made under this Act may be made with-  
12 out regard to Sec. 3648 of the Revised Statutes.

13 SEC. 10. This Act is cited as the "Armed Forces Medical  
14 Scholarship Act of 1954."